NI Bulletin

NUMISMATICS INTERNATIONAL

FOUNDED 1964

One Hundred Fourth meeting of
NUMISMATICS INTERNATIONAL
Wednesday, February 21, 1973, 7:30 P.M.
Republic Savings and Loan Assn.
Community Room (East Side)
6300 East Mockingbird Lane
DALLAS, TEXAS, U.S.A.

PROGRAM: "Nineteenth Century French Gold: from the First Empire to the Third Republic"

SPEAKER: Dr. Howard L. Ford

Dr. Ford, professor of English Drama at North Texas State University, Denton, Texas, will present a lecture and slide program on the gold coins of France from the period of the First Empire to the Third Republic.

Dr. Ford will also have the gold coins covered in his lecture on display at the meeting.

All members who can possibly attend are urged to be present for this important program.

NOTE: Be sure to read important announcement on pages 3-4 about the Russian numismatic tour being offered to members, departing May 31st. Further details will be available at this month's meeting.

FREE COFFEE AUCTION DOOR PRIZES

NI Bulletin

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES
Coins of Finland -- 1917 40
NI is going to RUSSIA in 1973 35

DEPARTMENTS
Book Reviews 44
Member Notice Page 48
New Issues 47
Program and Meeting Announcement ..... (Cover) 33

INSIDE N.I.
Back Issues of NI Bulletins For Sale 39
Membership Chairman's Report 37
NI to Participate in TNA Convention 39
6th NI Mail Bid Sale 38

OTHER ITEMS
Armenian Alphabet 42
Bruce Smith's "WHAT'S IN A NAME?" 39, 43
Continuing Story of the 1862 Rupees of India 43
Request for Assistance from Richard K. Bright 39

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NI is going to RUSSIA in 1973!!

Care to come along?

NI IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE FIRST NUMISMATIC TOUR OF THE USSR.

NI, under the auspices of the Citizen Exchange Corps, will conduct an exchange visit to the USSR. Citizen Exchange Corps is a non-profit, non-political organization devoted exclusively to fostering a better understanding between the nations of the world.

A group to be comprised of approximately 15-30 NI members and their wives or husbands will depart from New York on May 31st for a 21-day numismatic tour to the following tentatively scheduled cities:

LENINGRAD, ODESSA, BUKHARA, SAMARKAND, TASHKENT and MOSCOW

NI members will be meeting with numismatic organizations and viewing some of the most complete coin cabinets in the world, such as the Hermitage at Leningrad. They will also be attending various numismatic lectures and partaking of the cultural and recreational benefits at each stop of the itinerary.

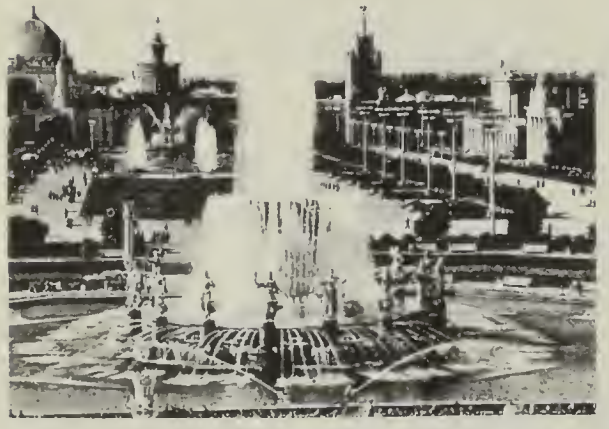
Leningrad — Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre.

FINNAIR will provide jet transporation both ways. The approximate cost of the tour will be $1100.00 per person, all-inclusive, from New York. All meals, lodging, guides, tours, etc. included, only your own personal expenses are extra. This is based on the minimum group of 15 persons and there will be a reduction in cost should the group reach near 30 persons which will be passed on to the members

in the group. Other attempts are being made to reduce the cost and, should they be successful, it will be passed on also.

Members are requested to register their interest as soon as possible with Vice-President Irving Berlin, P. O. Box 30013, Dallas, Texas 75230. Irving will be happy to pass along more detailed information to those interested members.

NI is proud to be the first numismatic organization to participate in this first invitation to the USSR of its kind. We expect this tour to be a most memorable occasion and the opportunity to visit with outstanding numismatists in the USSR is indeed exciting. There will be many instances where you will have the opportunity to participate in "trade" sessions with the Russian numismatists and there will be no problems encountered in bringing your coins into the USSR or taking coins out of the USSR. This event should truly make NI international in scope as well as in membership.



Moscow. Exhibition of Economic Achievements

Members interested in making the tour need not necessarily be Russian collectors or specialists. We are sure that the numismatic value of the trip will be highly interesting to any member with an interest of world coins. The coin cabinet of the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad is the finest in the world and contains coins from all over the world.

COME JOIN UP WITH US. There are already approximately 15 members, many from the Board of Governors, that have committed themselves to making the tour. Get away from it all for three wonderful weeks of visiting the Hermitage Museum, theater events, swimming in the Black Sea, strolling through Red Square and the Kremlin, sightseeing in the Old Quarter of Tashkent, viewing Bukhara's magnificent monuments dating from the ninth century, shutterbugging in the 2500-year old ancient "Arabian Nights" city of Samarkand and of greatest importance, visiting and socializing with leading Russian numismatists.

We would like to urge interested members to make arrangements with Irving Berlin as soon as possible since the May 31st departure is only 3-1/2 months away. Keep in mind that the cost is all-inclusive for a New York departure and the tour will be completely guided. It's a chance of a lifetime for numismatists to join up with their Russian counterparts for a most memorable experience.

INSIDE N. I.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

JANUARY APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Membership Application Numbers 828-837 published in the January 1973 NI Bulletin have been admitted to membership.

FEBRUARY APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: The following persons have applied for membership. If no written objections are received by March 1, 1973, their membership will become effective that date.
(MT = Will Trade by Mail)

838-MT Gerald Easton, P. O. Box 491, Camas, Washington 98607
(British Commonwealth)

839-MT George van Trump, Jr., P. O. Box 656, Edgemont, Golden, Colo. 80401 -- (Foreign Minors, Canadian and Mexican Type Sets)

840 Kim Harnack, 353 S. Mills Ave., Claremont, California 91711
(South America, Europe)

841-MT Ed Shlieker, P. O. Box 66061, Chicago, Ill. 60666
(World Currency, Mexico)

842-MT Cornelius McAuliffe, 3806 Wainwright Ave, Lansing, Mich. 48910
(Coins of Ireland)

843-MT TSGT Ralph E. Wiseman, 8532 Elm St., Fairchild AFB, Wash. 99011
(Currency and Coins of Japan, Germany, China)

844-MT David Herman, Eandos Street 4, Paleon Faliron, Athens, Greece
(Byzantine, Roman, Greek)

845-MT Rev. Francis Conway, O.P., 487 Michigan Ave. N. E., Washington, D. C. 20017 -- (Philippine Coins)

846-MT Dr. A. Gorter, Middellaan 32, Bilthoven 2660, Netherlands
(Oriental coins after 1750)

847 Mrs. Marjorie S. Lebo, 23 Quail Road, Osterville, Mass. 02655
(British Commonwealth)

848-MT Richard Hayes, 1219 Shaw Road, Fayetteville, N. C. 28301
(Asian Paper Money, China)

REINSTATEMENT: The following member has complied withthe By-Laws and is hereby reinstated to full membership:

336 M. E. Lynch, 9523 Aldwick Drive, Dallas, Texas 75238
(Br. Empire, South America, Russia)

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES AND COLLECTING SPECIALTIES:

673-MT Gerda Abart, c/o MSGT Rolland L. Abart, HHB 41st Fld Arty Gp, APO New York 09162 -- (Germany)

241-MT MSGT Miller B. Arbutine, Box 15249, Tucson, Ariz. 85708
(World Crowns, Chinese Silver Sycee and Trade Bars)

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES AND COLLECTING SPECIALTIES (CONT'D):

797-MT Jakov Brajkovic, Jr., Strosmajerova 21, 55400 Nova Gradiska, Yugoslavia -- (World Types, USA)

449-MT Salvatore M. DiGloria, 12412 Cooley Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44111 (Dealer in World Coins)

377-MT David O. Finnell, P. O. Box 26927, El Paso, Texas 79926 (Mexico and Philippines)

749-MT Gregory G. Brunk, 401 E. Chalmers, Apt. 210, Champaign, Ill. 61820 -- (Countermarks, Mexican, Ancient Bronzes)

349-MT Don MacRae, 1 Cag Box 73, C. F. P. O. 5056, via Belleville, Ontario, Canada -- (Germany, World Types)

466-MT Robert T. McIntire, P. O. Box 546, Jacksonville, Ark. 72076 (World Types)

272-MT David Nunn, Box 126, Maypearl, Texas 76064 (World Types)

376-MT Cpt. Albert J. Ruh, P. O. Box 403, Newton, N. J. 07860 (Siam)

724-MT TSGT Billie R. Shivers, 1657A Mercury Dr., Rt. 5, Valdosta, Ga. 31601 -- (Olympic Coins)

166 M. C. Smith, 7939 Cliffbrook Dr., No. 168, Dallas, Texas 75240 (Great Britain, World Topic)

305-MT William L. Spencer, P. O. Box 9684, El Paso, Texas 79986 (20th Century World Types, Latin American Paper Currency)

711-MT David T. Tronsgard, c/o Nasbe, Suite 215-B, 2480 W. 26th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80211 -- (Indian Rupees, Victorian)

187-MT Richard C. Upton, P. O. Box 1541, Dallas, Texas 75201 (Notgeld)

211-MT Robert D. Ward, Apartado Aereo 8361, Bogata, Columbia, SA (Minor Foreign)

687-MT Wiley Westerfield, P. O. Box DX, Irvine, Calif. 92626 (Literature, Odd and Curious)

6TH NI MAIL BID SALE: Lots will continue to be accepted for the 6th NI Mail Bid Sale through February 20th. (All lots must be in Dallas by that date.) If you have not sent in your lots, do so immediately as your time will almost run out by the time you have received this bulletin. Support of the sale supports NI.

Be sure to review the "Important Changes" listed in the January Bulletin.

Remember: Send your lots to the regular Dallas address -- P. O. Box. 30013, Dallas, Texas 75230. If you send them to Little Rock, it will only delay our receiving them, as they will have to be forwarded.

BACK ISSUES OF NI BULLETINS FOR SALE: The following back issues of NI Bulletins are still available at a cost of $.25 cents each:

1970 -- All issues except January and May
1971 -- All issues except January, February and March
1972 -- All issues except January

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NI TO PARTICIPATE FOR 2ND STRAIGHT YEAR IN THE ANNUAL TNA CONVENTION

NI will conduct an Educational Forum at the 1973 TNA Convention in Ft. Worth, Texas March 30th to April 1st.

The Forum will be presented at 4:30 PM, Saturday, March 31st, 1973 in Forum Room No. 262, Ft. Worth Convention Center.

Dr. Howard L. Ford, professor of English Drama at North Texas State University, Denton, Texas, and noted numismatist, will discuss "Prussian Thalers 1750-1871". Dr. Ford's discussion will include an exhibit of thalers of the period and colored slides.

This Educational Forum will be in addition to our regularly scheduled March meeting to be held on March 21st at the usual location.

Local members of NI in Dallas-Ft.Worth are looking forward to visiting with our many non-local members at the TNA Convention. Please make it a point to be in attendance at the Educational Forum so that we can renew acquaintances and establish new ones.

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REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESEARCH FROM MEMBER RICHARD K. BRIGHT:

Dick is trying to get together as complete as possible a date listing for Hyderabad coins and requests that the members look through their collections and duplicates and let him know what dates of what types they have and how many.

The regnal year which is found on the side opposite to the AH date on all coins except the square annas is very important.

Research of this nature is very important, especially to the students of Indian coins, and all members are urged to take the time and effort to assist Dick in his research.

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Bruce Smith's "WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

ANGSTER: A base silve Swiss coin introduced during the 15th century, and used until about 1846. The term comes from the German "angesichter" which is from the French "angesicht", meaning face. This referred to the full face portrait on the coins; most coins use profiles or 3/4 profiles, seldom a full face portrait.

CAVALLOTO: Denomination used in Sardinia as early as 1600. It refers to a horse which is probably used in the design.

COINS OF FINLAND -- 1917

by Leonard W. Harsel

THE MOST REMARKABLE FACT IN FINNISH HISTORY IS THAT THEY have survived through the various phases of Russian imperialism and have come through the stronger for it. The thread of Finnish history is, nevertheless, entwined in the cloth of its powerful neighbor.

The purpose of this paper is to discuss the coins of Finland during the period of the 1917 revolution and to present some background to that coinage.

The influence of Finland and Russia on the development of each other is presented in several books on the subject; suffice it to say that it was not the nature of the Finns to surface as a power in the northern Scandanavian area, but rather served as a pivot and buffer in the power politics between Russia on the one hand, and, at differing times, Denmark and Sweden. Finland belonged at one time or another to all three countries.

From the earliest days, Russia coveted Finland in much the same way that she does today with the countries of eastern Europe; as a land buffer against land attack from whatever enemies she may happen to have at the time.

As early as 1721, Finland was a province of Sweden which Russia captured but was forced to return by the Treaty of Nystadt. In addition Russia had to pay an indemnity of 2 million rixdollars.

During the unsettled times of Napoleon, Russia declared war with Sweden in 1808 and annexed Finland. This time Finland would stay within the Russiam empire until 1920. In a play of power politics, Napoleon and Alexander I signed the Treaty of Tilsit (1807) where each agreed not to interfere with each others activities (similar to the Hitler-Stalin pact of 1939). This treaty gave Russia the free hand it needed to annex Finland ostensibly for the protection of St. Petersburg (Petrograd, Leningrad).

Finland was then organized as an autonomous Grand Duchy with the Czar as Grand Duke. This degree of autonomy is seen on the coinage of the country where the center shield on the Russian coat of arms -- the two headed eagle with St. George in the center -- is replaced with the Finnish lion.

Although Finland generally was treated on a non-interfering basis by the Russians, its history and political development followed that of the mainland. With the assumption to the throne of Nicholas II, the last of the Czars, Finnish historic constitutional liberties and privileges were confirmed, however, by 1894, the Russification program was extended to Finland and the country was converted into a military district of the Russian empire. In 1899, the powers of the Diet (parliament) were curtailed; and a period of passive resistance developed against further Russification.

The revolution came to Russia and Finland in February 1917. It is the coins of this period that we are looking at. Finnish coinage has, for the most part, been minted in Helsinki. This is indicated by the S mint mark below the orb on the 25 and 50 pennia pieces. With the advent of the Provisional government, the mint simply removed the crown from over the eagle's head and continued on striking the same coins as before minus the symbol of Russian authority. (Russia, on the other hand, continued the Czarist design. This probably made no difference, since the coins barely circulated anyway.)

In March 1917, Finland was recognized as an independent state within the Russian federation; and on December 6, 1917, Finland proclaimed its complete independence. It wasn't until March 1918, however, that Russia was forced through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, to sever all connections with Finland. The influencing actions were instigated by the Germans who battled the Finnish Reds who were supported by the Bolsheviks during the period of the Civil War in Finland, January 1918. The White army led by Baron Mannerheim and supported by a strong German force, retook Helsinki and drove the Reds out of the country.

Finland has been bothered by Russia since this time, and it is to the credit of the Finnish character that they have survived and have been able to retain and develop their own national identity.

It should be pointed out at this time that the Reds, for the time that they held the capitol, issued a 5 pennia copper coin (Y32) which replaced the Russian eagle with a device of three trumpets and banners. Heralding the new day of Communism, no doubt. This short-lived issue is relatively scarce, but not in the rare category.

Technical Information:

1 Penni copper 15mm - Y27
5 Pennia copper 25 mm- Y28
10 Pennia copper 30 mm- Y29
25 Pennia silver 16 mm- Y30
50 Pennia silver 18 mm- Y31

References:

1. Julian, R. W., "The Last Coins of Imperial Russia", COINS Magazine, January 1971.

2. Langer, W. L., Ed., "An Encyclopedia of World History, 4th Ed.", Houghton, Mifflen, 1968.

3. Clarkson, J. D., "A History of Russia", Random House, 1961.

4. Yeoman, R. S., "A Catalog of Modern World Coins, 9th Ed.", Western Publishing Co., 1970.

THE ARMENIAN ALPHABET

by Bob Null

One tool I have found useful in my numismatic studies is a growing collection of foreign language dictionaries. A few weeks ago, as I was browsing through a used book store, I found an especially useful one. It was "A Handy Dictionary, Armenian-English" published by Elijiah Malkassian in Constantinople, 1902.

Inasmuch as information on the Armenian alphabet is not available from any numismatic work in my library or the libraries of my friends, I felt it might be useful to pass on that knowledge.

Letter	Name	Numeric Value
Ա	āip	1
Բ	pen	2
Գ	kim	3
Դ	tā	4
Ե	yetch	5
Զ	zā	6
Է	eh	7
Ը	yet	8
Թ	toh	9
Ժ	djeh (s as in illusion)	10
Ի	ini	20
Լ	liune	30
Խ	kheh	40
Ծ	dzā	50
Կ	gan	60
Հ	ho	70
Ձ	tza	80
Ղ	ghad	90
Ճ	jeh	100
Մ	men	200

Letter	Name	Numeric value
Յ	he, or hi	300
Ն	noo	400
Շ	shā	500
Ո	voh (a vowel)	600
Չ	chah	700
Պ	beh	800
Ջ	cheh	900
Ռ	rāh	1,000
Ս	seh	2,000
Վ	vev	3,000
Տ	diyoun, or dune	4,000
Ր	reh	5,000
Ց	tzoh	6,000
Ւ	hiyoune (semi vowel)	7,000
Փ	pure, or piyour	8,000
Ք	keh	9,000
Օ	o	
Ֆ	feh	

THE CONTINUING STORY OF THE 1862 RUPEES OF INDIA

by James G. Unti

Recently I came across a variety of the British India 1862 Rupee which I believe has not been previously recorded. At least this variety was not listed in Falke and Clarke's exhaustive monograph on the subject.

The Rupee in question, according to Falke and Clarke's classification, has a Type A obverse (3-3/4 jabot sections). However, although this coin is good in the area of the "v" mark, I did not detect one. The pearls in the crown appear to be the elongated type. The reverse is a type II.

The unique feature of this particular coin is the presence of two dots or beads below the flower at the top and four dots or beads above the flower at the bottom. Based on observations of similar coins I would conclude that this 1862 Rupee was minted in Bombay, probably in 1866.

REFERENCES:

"The Guidebook and Catalogue of the British Commonwealth Coins 1860-1969", Jerome Remick et al, 2nd Edition, Regency Stamp and Coin Co., 1969.

"India's 1862 Rupees", George Falcke and Robert L. Clarke, Krause Publications, 1971.

Bruce Smith's "WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

CAVALIER: A coin which circulated in France and the Low Countries in the 14th or 15th century. The word comes from the Italian "cavaliere" which is from the Latin "caballarius", meaning horse. The French however means horseman, referring to the design of a horseman. This coin is probably the same as the FRANC A CHEVAL, introduced in the 1360's, which has on the obverse the king mounted instead of standing, as on earlier coins. CHEVAL, of course refers to the horse. The DOBLA of Henry II of Spain is also called a CAVALIER.

DRIELANDER: The word is from the Dutch, meaning "three lands" because the coin was issued by the Counties of Holland and Hainaut and the Duchy of Brabant. Actually a DOUBLE GROS issued by John IV (1415-27) of Belgium. Under Philip of St. Pol (1427-30), this same coin was called a KROMSTAART.

TANGA: The Tibetan denomination TANGA comes from the Turkish or Mongolian, and means a seal or marked object.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Bruce Smith

As a real student of Chinese numismatics and history, I cannot contain my elation on finding that many old and reliable books on China, which till now I have had to visit several different libraries to find, have been reprinted and are available again -- and at relatively reasonable prices. These books are being reprinted in Taiwan (which keeps the price down) by the Ch'eng-wen Publishing Company, Taipei. They are available in the United States solely through Oriental Publications and Products, 811 Taraval Street at 19th Avenue, San Francisco, California 94116. Interested parties should write for their 17 page catalogue of western language reprints (in English, French and German, in that order) or their catalogue of reprints on Chinese. The quality of these books, compared to most Taiwan publications, is quite good -- much better than I had expected. Some come with a clear vinyl cover at no additional charge. All are clothbound hardbacks. They are an excellent investment for the serious student of Oriental numismatics or history.

ON CHINESE CURRENCY. COIN AND PAPER MONEY, by Willem Vissering (1877), $6.00. 220 pages including addenda and corregenda. With photo of Ming note.

This book is an examination of Chinese coins and paper money through the Sung Dynasty, taken mainly from the "Wen Hsien T'ung K'ao" by Ma Tuan-lin first published in 1321 AD. Ma Tuan Lin was a scholar during the Sung dynasty who retired from public office when the Mongols took over China. He devoted the remainder of his life to studies of the past, of which the "Wen Hsien T'ung K'ao" was the result.

Vissering has taken the "Wen", section by section, giving first the original Chinese, then a translation, and then his observations. This is precisely what Ma Tuan-lin did in the "Wen", reprinting earlier works and then making comments on the original. In this way, ancient works on coins have been preserved to this day, though the original work may have been lost long ago.

The majority of the book is concerned with the T'ang and Sung dynasties, on which the most information was available to Ma Tuan-lin. There is much useful information on the use of the coins and notes, the mints, and the official composition and weight of the coins. Since the original work was not an official Mongol publication, we can expect the work to be more truthful. It is an excellent book for one interested in pre-Ming dynasty coinage who cannot read Chinese, and it demonstrates quite well the early Chinese numismatic works. It is not a catalogue and contains few illustrations, as it is concerned more with the use and production of the coins than in the coins themselves.

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TRADE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHINESE EMPIRE, by H. B. Morse (1908), $6.00. 450 pages, including a full size color reproduction of a Ming banknote.

Hosea B. Morse was one of the foremost authorities on China during his day. A Harvard graduate born in Nova Scotia, he entered the Chinese

Imperial Customs Service in 1874 and served in various capacities in that service until he retired in 1907. From 1903, he was statistical secretary of the Customs Service, and his many works reflect his knowledge and access to official statistics.

The first three chapters are a general history of China and an outline of the government of the empire. The fourth chapter, on the revenue and expenditures of the empire, covers the various types of taxes and how they are paid and collected -- and spent.

Chapter five is on currency and is quite thorough. It is with a few minor changes, the same article published in the 1907 Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society under the title: The Currency of China. In the 52 pages of this chapter he covers the history of money in China, first copper coins, then paper money, then silver and gold. Included here is a table of mintage statistics for cash coins for the period 1644 through 1865. Although the figures are not wholly accurate, they are still a good indication of the output of the mints during that period. (The Royal Asiatic Society article contains also a table of the number of banknotes issued yearly by the various government authorities during the Mongol, or Yuan, dynasty. This table is unfortunately absent from the book.)

Chapter six deals with weights and measures; chapter eight with the provinces and treaty ports; chapters nine and ten with trade. The twelfth chapter covers the Customs department and how it came to be controlled by the foreign powers.

The last chapter is on the post office department, which was also controlled by the foreign powers. There is much useful information on postal history and how the postal system operated here, and is sure to interest those who, like myself, collect stamps as well as coins.

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THE CITIES AND TOWNS OF CHINA, by G. M. H. Playfair (2nd Edition 1910), $6.00. 660 pages, In Chinese and English.

Playfair was for many years the British Consul at Fuchow, Fukien. In 1879 he published the first edition of this work for the benefit of foreigners seeking accurate information on the cities of China, their location and importance. The book is in English but gives the name in Chinese characters as well as the Roman spelling of same. Several thousand cities are listed here, alphabetically arranged with their locations in latitude and longitude and the type of city they are, whether provincial capital, circuit capital, or the capital of a prefecture, subprefecture, district or department -- or just a simple town or village. In addition, other names by which the city is known and the names by which it was known in earlier dynasties is also given. If the city was mentioned by Marco Polo, the name by which he called it is also given. In the appendix is a list of all the provinces and the subdivisions of each. Although many cities have ben renamed since the Communist takeover, the book is still a must for those interested in old China.

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CATHAY AND THE WAY THITHER (4 Vol. in 2 Vol.), by Sir Henry Yule (2nd Edit. 1915), $14.40. Over 700 pages, several maps.

Henry Yule is best known for his 1871 edition of "The Book of Marco Polo", which was and probably still is the best edition of that work available today. Before publishing his "Marco Polo", which was well known in Europe by that time, Yule published in 1866 the first edition of this book, which is a translation of more obscure ancient and medieval writings on China.

Here he has collected writings by various ancient Greek and Roman authors, by Byzantie writers, and by a host of medieval European and Near Eastern authors -- nearly all first hand accounts of travels in and through China at various times. Of particular interest are the numerous references from the various sources to coins, ingots and paper money used in China -- especially during the Mongol dynasty. In most places, the original (in the original language) is given followed by the English translation. It is worthwhile book especially for those interested in the history of western contact with China.

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THE CHINESE COMMERCIAL GUIDE(5th Edition 1863), by S. Wells Williams, $6.00. 655 pages, including several treaties signed between China and the west.

Born in New York, Williams went to China in 1833. In 1848, he went to Japan with Commander Perry as interpreter. Later he became interpreter for the United States legation in China, until he returned to the United States in 1875. Two years later, he became professor Chinese language and literature at Yale.

This book, first published in 1844, was designed to help the foreign traders in the Orient. It contains all sorts of useful and/or interesting information, such as types of sycee ingots used in China and how to have them assayed, duties on every conceivable items, sailing directions to and through China, trade regulations in various places, drawings of various ships well known at the time, weights and measures used in various places, and tables to figure interest, exchange rates, logarithms, and directions on how to determine the fineness of metal.

Of more interest to numismatists, there are sections on the currencies of China (10 pgs.), Japan (4 pgs), Annan, Siam, Dutch East Indies, Philippines, Malayan States and Singapore, India, Burma and oddly, the United States (doesn't everyone know the Dollar?). There is also a table giving the date of the Chinese New Years Day from 1797 through 1868, quite useful in converting Chinese dates into western dates. There is, in short, just about everything one would need to know in China in 1863. A very interesting book.

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CHRONICLES OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY TRADING TO CHINA, 1635 TO 1834, 5 Volumes, by H. B. Morse (1926-1929), $18.00. 1800 pages, many tables.

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really "into" China. Attractive dark blue cover with gold lettering, and clear vinyl dust cover.

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MEMBER NOTICE PAGE

H. E. Manville, U. S. Consulate General, 1558 McGregor Ave., Montreal 109, P.Q., Canada: Information wanted on all specimens of the private British tradesmen's countermarks on Spanish and French dollars and halves, issued c. 1795-1825. I am preparing a master card file on all known specimens and would appreciate receiving brief identification of the cmk and details on mint, date, and assay masters' initials of the original coin, plus any known sale background, of these tokens in members' hands. Obv. and rev. photos would be most helpful.

Samuel Lachman, P. O. Box 141, Haifa 31000, ISRAEL or Kenneth Mackenzie, P. O. Box 212, Tenafly, N. J. 07670: We are engaged in the compilation of a comprehensive list of the countermarks on the coins of the Ottoman Empire. We shall welcome any information about such countermarks in the possession of collectors in NI, and who are not yet in touch with us.

Mark Pitcock, 35 Badgley Dr., New Providence, N. J. 07974: HELP. Am preparing an article on the status of "pseudo-crowns" as relating to the average collector. I will welcome the opinions of NI members in dealing with this subject. Thanks.

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